

## MINUTES

Renton School District  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, February 25, 2004  
Cascade Elementary School, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Marcie Maxwell. The Board and audience recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag. President Maxwell announced that the meeting was being audiotape recorded and that the agenda background materials are available in the Superintendent's Office after 4:00 p.m. the Friday preceding the board meeting.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcie Maxwell, President  
Joy Poff, Vice President  
Lynn Desmarais  
David Merrill  
Al Talley

Dr. Dolores Gibbons, Superintendent and Secretary  
to the Board of Directors

### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Principal Budde welcomed the Board and audience. He introduced PE teacher Jerry Burkhalter and students who entertained the group with their circus acts. The students performed on unicycles, did stunts on large balls and several gymnastic activities. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the Cascade Circus.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

President Maxwell presented a plaque of appreciation to Pat and Sharon Newbury and thanked them for all of their support of Renton schools. They have been wonderful corporate neighbors, business partners and friends of education. They have sold their McDonalds franchises and are moving to Billings, Montana.

Lakeridge principal Wanda Williams-Brown and educational associate Dinah Ladd-Ali presented Lakeridge PE teacher, John McAbee, with a Certificate of Excellence as King County Outstanding Physical Education Teacher for 2003-2004. John was nominated by staff and selected by the King County Physical Activity Coalition to receive this award.

SPECIAL REPORT

Jay Leviton, Director of Career and Life Skills, introduced Lindbergh marketing instructor, Don Bailey, who shared a brief history of the work-based learning program. In this program students are eligible to receive college credit and gain work skills at the same time. Marketing student, Ryan Freed, spoke about his work-related experiences in retail and related the assistance from Mr. Bailey and the class was critical to his success at his job.

Lindbergh sophomore, Olga Slevers, spoke about her experiences in Marketing, Leadership Development and related competitions. She detailed the difference of "Individual Hands-on Competition" and "Group Competition." She will be going to the State competition shortly.

"GOOD NEWS"  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Maxwell and Board members read the following "good news" announcements:

- Nelsen Middle School swept the Mt. Rainier Chapter of the MathCounts competition again this year. Nelsen's team, headed by math teacher Roberta Wheatley, placed first in the competition. Individual students and the coach of the top team will continue to compete to earn an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the annual MathCounts National Competition in May.
- Students at Cascade Elementary School recently completed a food drive. Principal Joe Budde refers to the February drive as a "Spread the Love" donation event. Even though no prizes are given for donations, students collected more than 900 items for the Renton Food Bank.
- Cheryl Sundberg and Brian Lockhart, teachers at Lakeridge Elementary School, have been awarded the VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. The Award recognizes the area's top elementary, junior high and high school teachers who teach citizenship education and promote America's history and traditions. Cheryl and Brian each received a medallion, a certificate and \$50.

- Highlands Elementary School first-grade teacher Marian Tasa recently won a \$500 grant from the Kiwanis Club. Marian will use the money to purchase Scholastic books for students.
- Benson Hill Elementary School librarian Beth Budinich recently received a \$500 grant from the School, Home, and Office Products Association. The “Kids In Need” grant will be used to purchase books on tape to add to the existing library that was established as a result of a Starbuck's grant awarded to Benson Hill staff earlier this year. Books on tape are available for student checkout thanks to the support of these two grants.
- Renton High School basketball players were recently honored by the Seamount League, King Division. A senior was selected as Player of the Year for Boy's Basketball, and a sophomore was selected as Player of the Year for the Girl's Basketball. Both were also chosen for the all-league teams.

Renton's boys' team won the Class 3A tournament last night beating Clover Park 76 to 43. With a record of 21 wins and 2 losses, Renton now moves on to the state tournament in the Tacoma Dome next week.

Renton and Lindbergh girls' teams will play tonight in the 3A tournament. The winner will play again on Friday at 6 p.m. for a chance to play in the state tournament.

- A Hazen High School gymnast received the Sportsmanship Award at the recent state gymnastics competition. Additionally, she placed fifth overall on the vault, seventh overall on the bar and ninth overall on the floor.
- A Hazen High School graduate has been honored by the Office of Minority Affairs at the University of Washington. He is in the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) who have made great strides in their academic achievements. Students are nominated by their academic advisor/counselor.

He was the recipient of the Merit Award, Winter Quarter, 2004.

- Cascade Elementary School teacher Harvey Sadis is teaching his students various lessons in reading, writing, math and other subjects using a very unconventional method: Shakespeare. Students in Harvey's class are learning Shakespeare's *A MidSummer Night's Dream* in Shakespearean libretto to present to parents and the public in May. For the past two years, Harvey has raised funds from patrons of the arts to take students to area Shakespeare festivals and treat them to the language and culture that is Shakespeare. He then uses that knowledge in the classroom and in preparing the students for their play.

## RECESS

At 7:50 p.m. a recess was called for ten minutes to allow the Board and audience to enjoy refreshments and thank the students for their outstanding performance.

## CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-H w/addendum Approved

By motion of Poff and second by Merrill, the Board approved the following consent agenda w/addendum, Items A-H, as presented. Unanimous vote.

### A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the February 11, 2004 Regular Meeting

### B. Warrants

1. Capital Projects Fund  
Nos. 201968-202009 inclusive - \$873,136.30
2. General Fund  
Nos.133667-133852 inclusive - \$322,137.77  
Nos.133853-134089 inclusive - \$468,671.51
3. Associated Student Body Fund  
Nos. 422637-422661 inclusive - \$13,535.85  
Nos. 422662-422675 inclusive - \$5,978.07  
Nos. 422676-422704 inclusive - \$18,688.29  
Nos. 422705-422719 inclusive - \$10,150.38  
Nos. 422720-422760 inclusive - \$52,487.34

4. Private Purpose Trust  
Nos. 700200-700204 inclusive - \$393.00
  5. Trust  
Electronic transfer for Trust Flex - \$5,004.89  
Electronic transfer for Hazen Script - \$1,004.30
- C. Personnel Exhibits as presented, a copy of which is attached as a part of these minutes.
- D. Staff Travel
1. Jay Leviton to Association of Career and Technical Education Legislative Policy Seminar in Washington, D. C., March 11-18, 2004
- E. Student Travel
1. Lindbergh Jazz Ensemble to Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho, February 27-29, 2004
  2. Renton High School Physics II Students to ASCE Bridge Building Competition at Crossroads Mall in Bellevue on February 21, 2004
  3. Tiffany Park 5<sup>th</sup> Graders to Camp Colman on March 24-26, 2004
- F. Resolutions
1. Resolution No. 11-03/04, Certifying that the Continued Use of the Benson Hill Elementary School Site Will Not Create nor Aggravate Racial Imbalance
  2. Resolution No. 12-03/04, Certifying that the Continued Use of the Hazelwood Elementary School Site Will Not Create nor Aggravate Racial Imbalance
- G. Contracts and Agreements
1. Agreement with Cumberland Therapy Services to Provide Psychologist Services to Renton School District Students
  2. Interdistrict Cooperation Contract for Special Education Nonresident Enrollment with Bellevue School District
  3. Transportation Agreement with Stacy Goodrich

H. Donations

1. \$409.40 Mathematics Grant to Hazelwood Elementary from City of Newcastle
2. \$1,500 to Lindbergh Close Up Program from Lindbergh Eagle Booster Association
3. Two Boxes of Sticky Notes (valued at \$305.64) to Lakeridge Elementary from Candice Pinder

CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE  
AND DELEGATIONS  
FROM THE FLOOR

There was no correspondence to be read and no delegations from the floor.

POLICIES 4000, 4020, 4040,  
4230 AND 4260 – Second Reading

Approved

By motion from Talley and second by Poff, Policies 4000, 4020, 4040, 4230 and 4260 were approved with recommended changes for the second reading. Vote 5-0.

RENUMBERED POLICIES  
1240, 6260 and 6265 –  
Second Reading

Approved

By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, Renumbered Policies 1240, 6260 and 6265 were approved for the second reading. Vote 5-0.

SCHEMATIC DESIGN FOR  
LINDBERGH HIGH SCHOOL  
COMMONS

Approved

Craig Mason from DLR Group gave a short presentation on the schematic design of the new commons area at Lindbergh. This addition will provide an appropriate space for students to gather and is also designed to be a pre-function and intermission space outside of the auditorium. The project will be funded out of the 2003 bond utilizing approximately 25% of the designated Lindbergh High School project budget. By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais the schematic design for the Lindbergh High commons was approved. Vote 5-0.

PROJECT SCOPE AND  
REQUEST BIDS FOR PHASE 3-A  
OF HAZEN HIGH SCHOOL  
RENOVATION PROJECT

Approved

Architect Craig Mason, DLR Group, presented information on the Hazen High School renovation project. The project scope of work will include:

1. exterior window replacement
1. cleaning and sealing of all exterior walls
2. cleaning and painting of walkway canopies
3. replacing walkway light fixtures
4. replacing classroom unit ventilators
5. conversion of mechanical control system
6. replacement of steam valves and traps to unit ventilators

The work is scheduled to be accomplished over the summer of 2004 and will commence as soon as school is out in June. The project will be funded from the 2003 bond passage. By motion from Talley and second by Poff, the Board unanimously approved the project scope and request for bids for phase 3-A of the Hazen High School renovation project. Vote 5-0.

POLICY 3132, CHILDREN  
OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES-  
First Reading

Approved

Executive Director Pappas stated as part of the 2003 State Legislative Session, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 5142 entitled "Children of School Employees" was passed. This act relates to permitting children of full-time certificated and classified school employees to enroll at the school where the employee is assigned. Policy 3132 fulfills this state mandate. The Board asked to have a portion of the policy placed into procedures for the second reading. By motion of Merrill and second by Poff, the Board approved Policy 3132, Children of School Employees, with suggested changes, for the first reading. Vote 5-0.

REPORT ON ASSESSMENT/  
WASL PLANS FOR  
STRUGGLING STUDENTS

Director Ed Sheppard and Tony Helt, Assessment Curriculum Support, gave a Power Point presentation on assessment in the Renton School District. They reviewed the state testing program requirements and the 2003/2004 testing calendar for Renton School District students. The three required state tests (WASL, ITBS and ITED) were defined. Mr. Helt is

concentrating on working with the Renton schools identified as Title I to utilize the best possible use of resources for analyzing student skills. Mr. Sheppard stated there is a shift in thinking and the current district mission statement is "assessment should drive instruction and precede planning." The district is also concentrating on building data analysis and planning and establishing a unified database to help increase graduation rates. Building and district staff development will increase as well as a district-wide review of practices. Mr. Sheppard stated teacher interaction with students is critical to diagnosing student progress. The Board thanked Mr. Sheppard and Mr. Helt for their presentation.

FAMILY LIAISON  
PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Executive Director Kay Hermann discussed the Family Liaison Program. This is a combined effort of the Communities and Schools of Renton and the Renton School District. The liaisons provide services to assist families in need. The Outcomes for the 2002-2003 school year include:

1. Children and families have increased support by the community
2. Parents/guardians are more engaged with their child's school
3. Children have improved positive self-concept
4. Children's commitment to school increases
5. Children's school performance improves

Family liaison, Lydia Barker, shared a couple of her experiences with families. She helps direct families to outside agencies for services to assist in the students staying in school.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION  
REPORT 2003-2004  
Approved

Chief Technology Officer Bill Hulten presented the updated affirmative action report for 2003-2004. He stated the district achieved some very nice gains in minority employment in comparison to the previous year, especially in the classified employee categories and in the building administrator category. The percentage of minority employment increased in all seven of the classified employee groups. The

principal and assistant principals groups moved from 22% to just over 32% ethnic minority representation this past year. By motion from Talley and second by Poff, the Affirmative Action Report 2003-2004 was approved. Vote 5-0.

## INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Dr. Gibbons polled the Board whether the regularly scheduled Board meeting on April 14 should be moved to April 7 because of Spring Break. The Board unanimously agreed **to reschedule the meeting to April 7** at the KEC Board Room. She recently attended the AASA National Conference in San Francisco and claimed it was the most powerful conference she had been to in ten years. She also spoke at the Lithia car dealership grand opening with the mayor.

Ms. Poff attended the State of the City address, the WSSDA regional meeting in Renton and Talbot Hill's Microsociety Market Place.

Ms. Desmarais also attended the State of the City address, the WSSDA regional meeting and a Lindbergh High School scholarship committee meeting.

Mr. Talley did his weekly mentoring at Kennydale and McKnight and attended the WSSDA regional meeting. He is also on the Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services interview team.

President Maxwell was also in attendance at the WSSDA regional meeting and the State of the City address. She was present at the Kennydale neighborhood leadership event sponsored by the City of Renton. She attended the Mercer Island Town Hall with the 41<sup>st</sup> District Legislators and a Blue Ribbon Committee meeting. The Budget Advisory Committee and Diversity Advisory Committee meetings were included in her schedule. She assisted the Renton High School DECA students in rehearsing their competition performances. She also cheered on the Renton High School boys basketball team.

RECESS

At 9:30 p.m. a recess was called for 15 minutes for an executive session on legal matters with no action following.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 9:45 p.m. Poff moved and Desmarais seconded to adjourn the executive session and the regular meeting of the Board. Unanimous vote. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 10, 2004 at the Kohlwes Education Center.

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Secretary

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President

Note: Board minutes are edited for Web publication. Patrons wishing official minutes may contact the Superintendent's Office: (425) 204-2340.